SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

51 Marketplace Irvine, CA 92602 · 949-551-8601 · www.stmirvine.org

Welcoming all, we, the Spirit-filled parish of St. Thomas More, value our Roman Catholic faith by celebrating the sacraments, breaking open the Scriptures, and joyfully offering ourselves in service to others. Under the inspiration of our patron saint, we seek to build a caring community that embraces the values he modeled of friendship, integrity and courageous love of God.

Pastor	**Rev. John E. Janze**
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Kiet Ta
Parochial Vicar Emeritus	Rev. William Krekelberg
Weekend Assistants	Rev. Joseph Horn, O Praem
	Rev. Joseph Justice
Deacons	Deacon Tony & Mrs. Mary Patronite
	Deacon Stan & Mrs. Fran Necikowski
	Deacon Tin & Mrs. UyenLan Nguyen
	Deacon Leonard & Mrs. Nancy Sun
	Deacon John & Mrs. Michelle Selig

Office Information:

Office:	949-551-8601
After hours emergency:	949-228-2127
Fax:	949-551-5879
Religious Education:	949-551-8029
Youth Ministry:	949-551-8602

Office Hours by Phone:
The parish office is closed to the public, and answering the phones during the following times:
Monday-Saturday: 9:00am-2:00pm

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Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

- Masks and 3 feet of physical distancing required
- Keep at least one chair open between family groups
- Please do not sit directly in front or behind someone
- Try to stagger your seating
- Patio available for overflow—bring your own chair
- Most Masses will continue to be livestreamed

Effective July 1, 2021, Rev. John Janze will retire as Pastor and his title will be, Pastor Emeritus. Our new Pastor will be Rev. Eugene Lee. He is the current Director at Korean Martyrs Catholic Center in Westminster and previously served as Parochial Vicar at Our Lady Queen of Angels in Newport Beach. More details will be forthcoming in the following weeks. We look forward to meeting him soon!

MASS INTENTIONS

Please call the front desk to request a Mass Intention

Monday 5/3	8:00am	†Tulio Acuna
Tuesday 5/4	8:00am	Tony Gonzalez
Wednesday 5/5	8:00am	Dan Hoying
Thursday 5/6	8:00am	†Peter Thuy Duc Tran
Friday 5/7	8:00am	Keith Rattay
Saturday 5/8	8:00am	†Maria Elena Moreno
	8:00am	Teresa Natividad
	8:00am	†Margaret Mirkovich
	8:00am	†Larry and Pilar Orque
	8:00am	†Maurice Mudlong
	8:00am	†Raquel Muro
	8:00am	†Dinh Thomas
	8:00am	†Paul Hoying
	8:00am	Felina Young
	8:00am	Henry and Cat Young
	6:00pm	Zach Selig
Sunday 5/9	8:00am	Mother's Day Novena
	10:00am	
	12:00pm	D Andre Lemire
	5:00pm	Pro Populo

Daily Mass:
Monday – Saturday
8:00 AM

Vigil Mass Times
4:00 PM Vietnamese/English
6:00 PM English

Sunday Mass Times
8:00 AM English
10:00 AM English
12:00 PM Spanish/English
5:00 PM English

Morning Prayer: Wed & Fri 7:30am to 7:50am
Adoration: Every Friday 9:00am to 10:00am
Saturday Confessions: 1:00pm to 3:00pm

We will continue to livestream all Masses with the exception of Sunday 8:00am

For spiritual advisement, please contact the priest to schedule an appointment.

Rest in the Love of Christ
Shey Schwabe
Esther Wiltchik

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Barnabas reported to the apostles how Saul had seen the Lord on the way (Acts 9:26-31).
Psalm — I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people (Psalm 22).
Second Reading — This is God's commandment: that we may believe and love (1 John 3:18-24).
Gospel — I am the true vine; whoever remains in me will bear much fruit (John 15:1-8).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

My Dear People,

Today's theme on the Readings: BEARING FRUIT

Few of us, even when we meditate on the image of the vine and branches, stop to really think about how God "prunes" us. For some there is the danger of thinking that we are already producing fruit for the kingdom, in deed and truth as John says, perhaps raising a family, being active in our parish, and so on. But even those branches which are bearing fruit, the Gospel tells us, can be pruned to produce still more. Today Saul, freshly "pruned" by his conversion, arrives in Jerusalem and meets resistance. Since he had been persecuting Christians, this was only natural. But even after he is accepted and begins to bear fruit, he meets further adversity, and his letters are filled with many accounts of how his trials "pruned" him to produce greater fruit for the kingdom. Like him, as long as we remain in Christ we will continue to bear fruit and, when the will of the Father determines it is time to prune us, the strength of the true vine must enable us to endure it. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

In Christ,
Father John

Collections and Expenses

4-19-2021 to 4-25-21

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	$8,624	$11,410	$20,035
Believe & Grow	$350	$1,367	$1,717
BGT– Phase 2	$710	$1,130	$1,840
Building Fund	$210	$439	$649
Other income	$1,172	$1,074	$2,246

Regular Expenses	$29,498

We appreciate your continued financial support of the parish during these challenging times. If you would like to give, please click on the e-giving link in the top corner of the STM website to set up or update your e-giving. If you have questions, please call the office. All donations to the *Believe & Grow Together Campaign* will be used exclusively to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church. Moreover, Building Fund donations can be used to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church and for the maintenance and repairs of the existing Parish buildings and property. ***Thank you for your generosity!***

Wedding Banns

James Dinh & Victoria Vu
Kim Than & Serena Dinh

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11
Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
Sunday: Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17 or Jn 17:11b-19

This weekend there will be a second collection called, ***Parishes in Collaboration.*** This collection will assist parishes in need within the Diocese of Orange.

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING

Sally Acosta
Stacey Allen
Richy Altuna
Mike Anderson
Renee Andrade
Judy Anselmo
Alicia Arrellano
Ed Baldyga
Sam Baniqued
Zicky Baniqued
Jesus Barragan
Blanca Bermudez
Maria Botello
Michele Bradley
Bill Burk
Lisa Busch
Mary & Joe Bush
Baby Zane Cabazon
Linda Carter
Ellen Chang
Cyrus Charna
Marietta Charbonneau
Hui-Mei Chen
Clara Connor
Alexandra Conti
Petra Cordova
Ellie Dainko
Jim Danaher
Rick Denham
Diana & Liberato DeVeyra
Larry Doan
Chela Echenique
Meynard Encarnacion
Jacob Espinoza
Howard Frankel, MD
John Frisch
Cynthia Fox
Claudia Fuentez
Mike Garibay
Lillian Gibson
Jose Gonzales, Jr.
Marisela Gonzalez
Lois Gorman
Alice Green
Emma Hager
Tina Halberg
Baby Johanna Harris
Mike Harvey
Shirley Hecker
John Heffernan
Robert Henry
Annette Hills
Margaret Hills
Clara Honea
Dominador Hontucan
Sue House
Linda Hughes
Angela Jack
Elsa Jatwani
Theresa Johnston
Sharon Jones
Doris Jordan
Quinn Kelly
Jim Kendall
Houman Khaghani
Jett Knight
Ty Vivian Knisely
Elizabeth Kulas
Richard Kulas
Deborah Kurilchyk
Larry Lathrum
Damian Ledesma
Todd Leeds
Jack Light
Minerva Lopez
Aida Lopez-Tan
Gloria MacCormack
Betty Mackintosh
Myrna Malazarte
Kristin Mann
Mercedes Mantilla
Cherry Marinas
Cavan McGaffney
Kathleen McKinley
Anne McNally
Connie Mellott
Durvalina Menezes
Stephanie Mispagel
Linda Moore
Agnes Motley
Marie Moya
Susan Navarrete
Ramon Navarro, Jr.
Paul Neilson
Benjamin Nicanor
Karen Norton
Nam Van Nguyen
Thuy-Lieu Nguyen
Kyle Osbourne
Agnes Pamintuam
Dcn Tony & Mary Patronite
Regina Park
Norma Jeanne Parrish
Gabby Paz
Charlie Perrea
Ngocle Phung
Zachary Quick
Norma Quyang
Fr. Jim Reis
Paula Reno
Lorraine Reyes
Ponciano Reyes
Robert Arnold Rull
Sheila Russo
Terry Rute
Anita Ruwaldt
Jackson & Gerri Scharff
Michelle Suh
Tara Summers
Liz Thomas
Baby Catherine Tseng
Gail Tierney
Maria To
Xuan Tran
Denise Trujillo
Jack Troung
Kimberly Truong
Baby Catherine Tseng
David Valentine
Daniel Villareal
Jim Vessey
Hanh Vu
Alicia Walters
John Weber
Bill Westlund
Mike Winchester
Jim Wood
Linda Yipp

Please call the office when it is time to remove a name.

Liked by rp_enriquez and 58 others

Life Teen Bible Studies will continue to meet on Mondays at 7pm. If you would like to attend the bible studies, please go to www.stmirvine.org/live and click on bible study to join.

Live Nights meet virtually on Sunday Nights at 7pm. To join in please go to www.stmirvine.org/live and click on Live Nights.

Virtual Live Nights will be on break for two weeks. The next live nights are May 16th and May 23rd.

Liked by that_girl_sarahi and 109 others

Confirmation Classes continues to take place online.

Confirmation 1 Classes Dates Are
Wednesday, May 5th at 7pm
Wednesday, May 19th 24 at 6pm (in person retreat)

Confirmation 2 Classes Dates Are
Wednesday, April 28th at 7pm
Wednesday, May 12th at 7pm
Saturday, May 22nd from 9am-2pm (in person retreat)
Wednesday, May 26th at 7pm

R.E.P. CORNER

CONGRATULATIONS!!

We had over 50 young people receive the Eucharist for the first time this weekend! We have another 50 receiving the Eucharist for the first time next weekend, on May 8th, as well. Please keep all of our First Communicants in your prayers during this exciting time.

SUMMER VBS NEWS—SAVE THE DATE!!!

ROCKY RAILWAY—Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through is coming to STM the week of July 26th-30th. Hope to see you all at this fun-filled, action-packed week!

For any questions, call the REP Office at (949) 551-8029.

The Library Corner

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The St Thomas More Parish Library staff would like to wish all our parishioners a Happy Fifth Sunday of Easter. The Library will be closed until further notice.

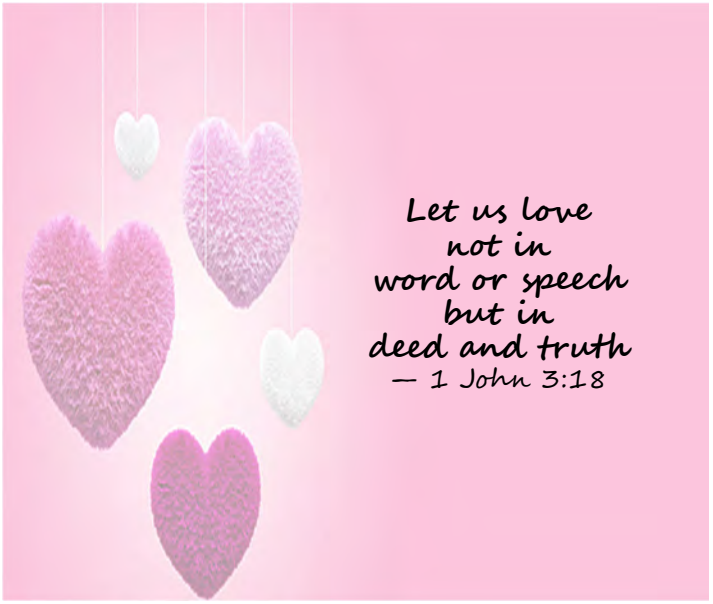
In the gospel today Jesus warns us to abide in Him, to remain closely united with Him, as is the branch from the vine, if we hope to bear fruit worthy of heaven. These words from Christ are intended to encourage and console us so we can persevere on the road to heaven, by living a Christian life. As Catholics, we know if we strive daily to keep His commandments and remain in Him, and My words remain in you, 'whatever you ask of Him, it will be done for you'.

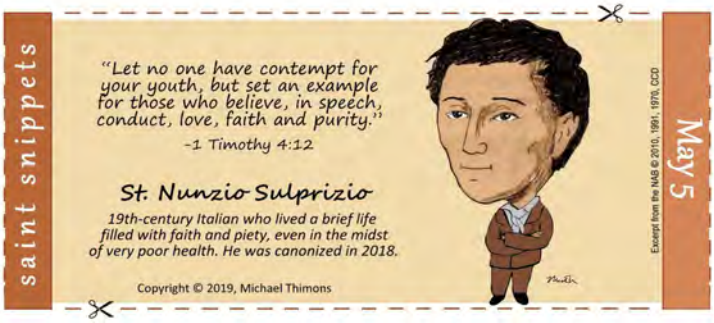
Mother's Day Novena

Cards available
on the tables
on the patio
and
in the office lobby

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter
Monday: Ss. Philip and James
Wednesday: Cinco de Mayo
Thursday: National Day of Prayer
Friday: First Friday





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Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you?

Simply follow the instructions below to select "St. Thomas More Parish-Irvine, CA" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone

2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features

3. Select "St Thomas More Parish—Irvine, CA" as your charity

4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

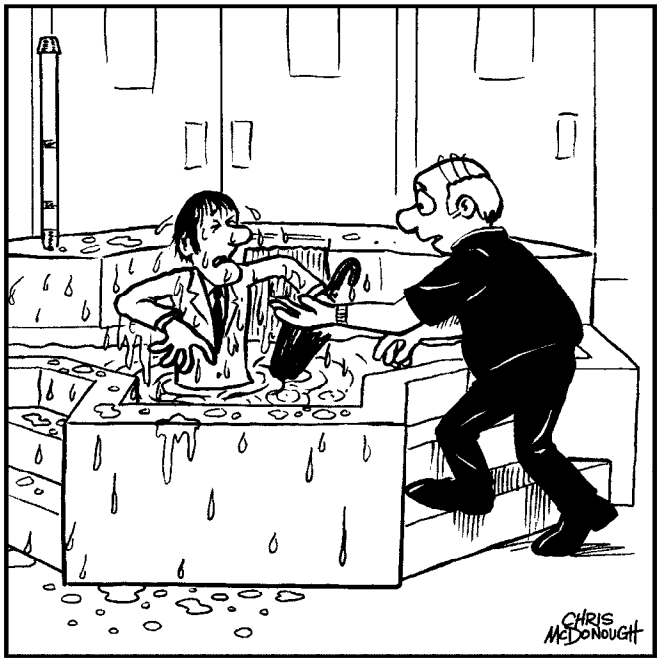
FEAST OF FAITH
The Homily

The ambo, or pulpit, is a special place—it is the place for God's word. That is why it is not used for all the spoken words of the Mass, even important words like the collects and the blessing. The ambo is only used for the scripture readings, and for the homily and the prayer of the faithful.

The homily is part of the Liturgy of the Word. It flows from the readings we have just heard, and helps us to understand the way in which God is speaking to us today. The homily is not a lecture, a catechism lesson, or a speech. It is more like an exhortation; it has an urgency about it, for it calls us to find ourselves in the scripture, to live the faith we profess, to see our world by the light of the Gospel. The homily, in itself a response to God's word, demands a response from us. There are many styles of preaching and many ways to respond to the scriptures. But whether the homily is weak or strong, an open ear and an open heart can find in it an abundance of spiritual nourishment.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Pastor Al®



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"You're *extremely* generous, Joseph, but you should only donate eyeglasses you aren't using anymore."

Ways to Give to STM:

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. In basket after Mass

. Mail your check or drop it off in our parish lobby

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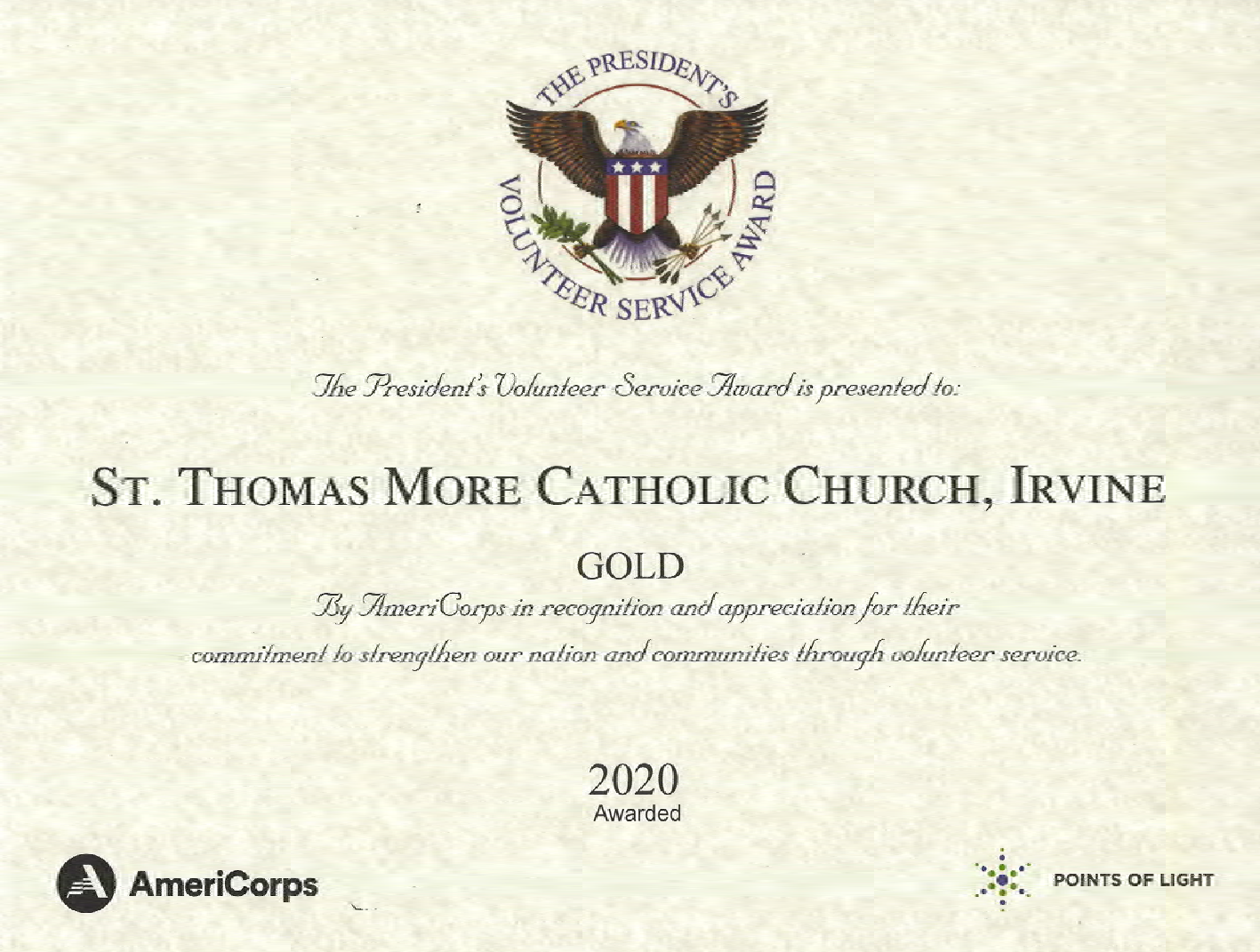
Thank you for your continued support!

Congratulations Fr. John and St. Thomas More Ministries!

The parish is being recognized with the President's Volunteer Service Gold Award. St. Thomas More Catholic Parish is blessed with so many wonderful volunteers who give of their time, talent and treasure. This award is in recognition for the nearly twenty years that St. Thomas More Parish has supported the sailors, marines, and troops (and families) who have passed through the Naval Hospital and Camp Pendleton.

The letter accompanying the certificate was signed by President Trump and was presented to Fr. John, thanking us for helping those most in need: "*Over this past year, you have served as a model of the American spirit. Your many hours of service have strengthened the bonds of cooperation and trust that bring people together, while helping to address some of the greatest challenges of our time. Thank you for your enduring commitment to serving your community and our Nation.*"



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MONTH of MARY

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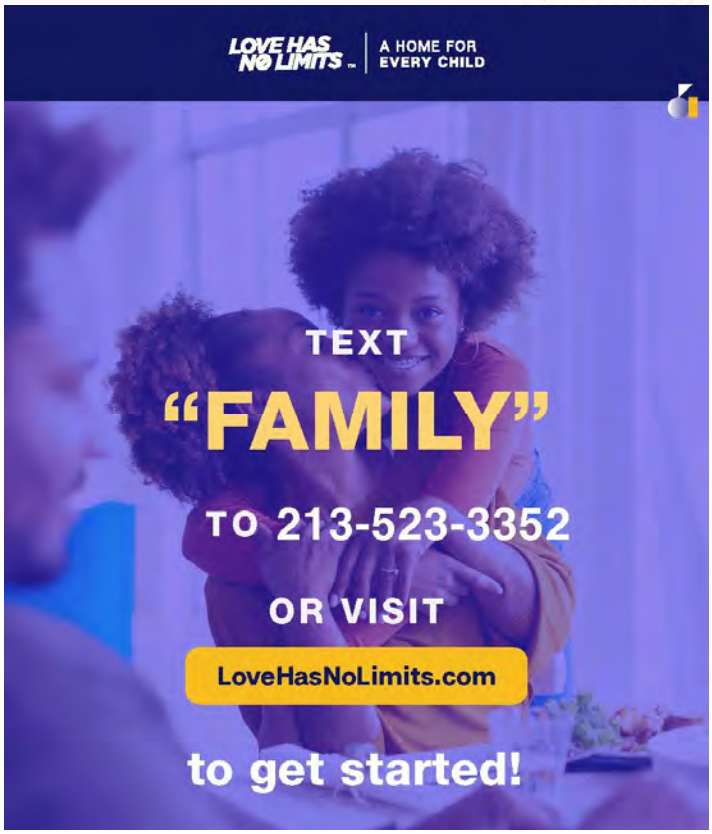

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—St. Thérèse of Lisieux

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF Easter

MAY 2, 2021

I am the vine, you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me and I in them will bear much fruit,
because without me you can do nothing.
John 15:5

THE FRUIT OF FAITH

In today's Gospel, Jesus likens our relationship with him to a plant with many branches. We, the branches, are called to remain so close to Jesus that we bear fruit, loving one another as Christ loves us. Saul bore the fruit of his faith through powerful witness that drew others to Christ. And the branches that grew into the early Church were extraordinarily fruitful. What is the fruit of your faith in Jesus Christ?

VINES, BRANCHES, AND FRUIT

Few activities are as disappointing as cultivating garden plants, watering them, and ensuring that they receive sunlight and nutrients, only to receive one or two vegetables or flowers to show for all the effort. Jesus uses the metaphor of the vine and branches to describe how closely we are called to remain with him—so close that we bear the fruit of his life and love in the way we live. When we do this, Jesus says, we give glory to God the Father, which Jesus did perfectly through his life, passion, death, and resurrection. Like plants that rely on the sun and nutrients from the soil, we rely on the Lord Jesus through whom we can do all for which we are called. Without the Lord, we can do nothing.

LEARN FROM THE FIRST ONES

The story of the early Church that we hear from the Acts of the Apostles during the Easter season is instructive and inspiring. We learn how the community grew in their understanding of what it means to remain close to Jesus in the most challenging of situations. They lived in word and deed as Christ had taught and bore the fruit of their faith in their daily decisions, in small ways and in dramatic moments. Faced with Saul who had persecuted Christians and who presented himself as a disciple, Barnabas risked believing Saul's testimony. Through Barnabas, the community accepted Saul, with increasing numbers of people being led to belief in Christ as a result. We too are called to live in word and deed, taking to heart Christ's command to love one another, even when it is challenging to do so. We may find inspiration in the way the early believers drew consolation from the Holy Spirit, finding wisdom and strength to keep the commandments and do what pleases God.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 9:26–31
Psalm 22:26–27, 28, 30, 31–32
1 John 3:18–24
John 15:1–8

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